Biosafety and Biological Research at the University of Delaware

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Topics

- Environmental Health & Safety Department
- Biosafety Program
- Biological Research at UD





Environmental Health & Safety

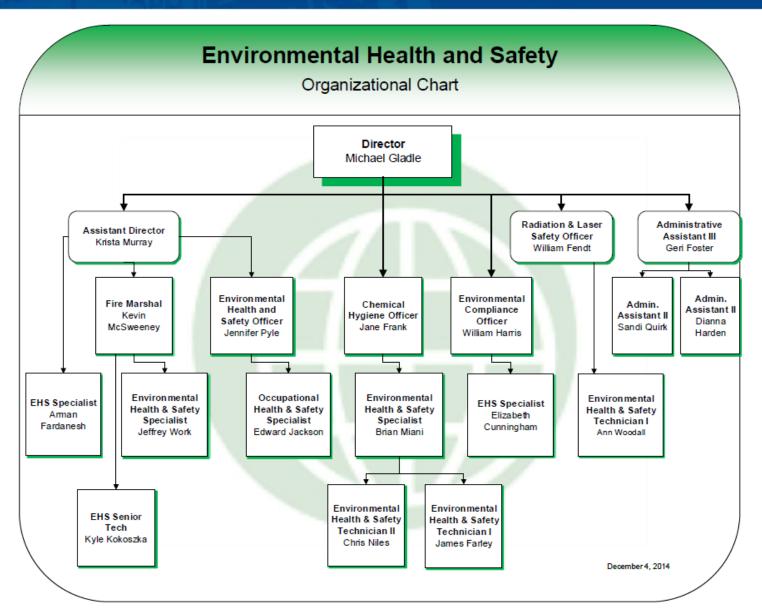
- 19 staff members and 1 student intern
- Oversee all campuses- Newark, Lewes, Georgetown, Wilmington, Dover
- Responsible for the safety and compliance for all faculty, staff, and students working for or attending UD programs



EHS Programs

- Research Safety
 - Chemical hygiene, biosafety, radiation, lasers, waste management
- Fire/Life safety
 - Fire safety, confined space, fall protection, injury/illness investigation, industrial hygiene
- Environmental compliance
 - Stormwater, air permitting, storage tanks, asbestos, lead







Biosafety Program

- 2 staff members for the program
- University Biosafety Committee to provide oversight and meet regulatory compliance.
 Composed of faculty working with biologicals on campus. Registered with NIH OBA
- Registered Select Agent program through the USDA



Included Programs

- Biological Research
- Recombinant DNA research
- OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Program
- Select Agent program
- Infectious waste program
- Laminar flow equipment



Included Programs

- Autoclave inventory
- USDA/CDC permits
- Spill responses
- Biological exposure assessments
- AHA Training Center for CPR and management of AED program





Support to Other Safety Programs

- Service on IACUC, AACUC for animal research oversight
- Service on IRB for human subject research
- Emergency response for campus
- Indoor air quality program
- Water quality concerns





Support to Other Safety Programs

- Assistance with outbreak concerns on campus
- Emergency preparedness
- General lab safety program (inspections)





Biological Research

- Work takes place on Newark, Lewes, and Georgetown campuses
- Approximately 150 Principal Investigators and 650 research staff work with biologicals
- Over 1500 individuals included in the bloodborne pathogens program



Bloodborne Pathogens

- Covers employees and students with potential exposure to blood or other potentially infected materials, including human cell lines
- Researchers, student health medical staff, allied health students, UDPD, UDECU, custodial, some maintenance staff, some athletic facility staff



Biosafety Program

 Biological Work in Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Marine Studies, Medical Laboratory Sciences, Physical Therapy, Kinesiology & Applied Physiology, Animal & Food Sciences, Plant & Soil Sciences, Entomology & Wildlife Ecology, Engineering: Biomedical, Chemical, Materials Science, Mechanical



Human Health Research

- Cancer Research
- Pathogens
- Cardiovascular disease
- Drug delivery systems
- Collaborations with Christiana Care, UPenn, Nemours

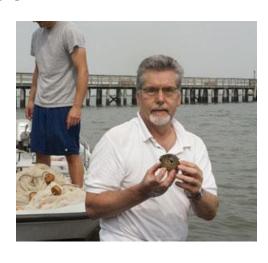


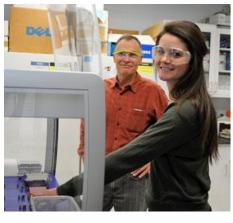


Marine Research

- Fish research
- Algae research
- Microbial diversity
- Marine plants and animals









Engineering Research

- Engineered tissues
- Tissue mechanics
- Nanoparticle, drug and gene delivery
- Cellular and molecular engineering
- Biodiesel from wastewater treatment
- Wastewater filtration methods





Plant Research

- Plant growth and nutrition
- Disease identification and prevention
- Soil environmental microbiology
- Part of National Plant Diagnostic Network









Animal & Food Science

- Food safety
- Animal nutrition





- Disease prevention/vaccine development
- University farms: cattle, dairy cows, horses,

sheep, poultry







Special Facilities

- Animal facility
- 2 Farms





- Greenhouses, with biocontainment areas
- RV Cape Henlopen





Patient Care/ Education

- Nurse Managed Health Center
- Physical Therapy Clinic
- Early Learning Center
- Lab Preschool
- College School







Field Studies

• Work in Belize, Antarctica, Africa, throughout

the US





Biosafety Level 3 Facility

- Charles C. Allen Laboratory
- Research labs, animal rooms
- USDA approved
- Poultry research- pathogens and vaccine studies
- Allen Lab and Lasher Lab are part of National Animal Health Laboratory Network (like NBL and RBL labs)





What Makes it a BSL3 Facility?

- HEPA filtration for contained areas
- Pass-through autoclave; autoclaves in labs as well
- Shower-out capability
- Liquid Waste Disposal System
- Formaldehyde decontamination at end of projects
- Pathological incinerator on campus

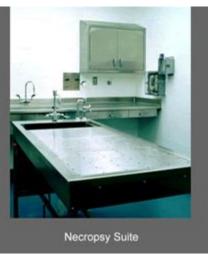










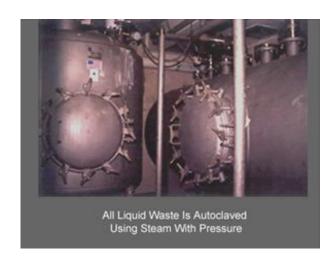








Double HEPA Filter Housing 100 % of Air Filtered Through High Efficiency Particulate Air Filters (HEPA Filters)





Lasher Laboratory- Georgetown

- Just renovated
- BSL2 Plus capability
- Necropsy suite



Food safety research





Select Agent Program

- Since the inception of the federal program
- Registered with the USDA
- Work with 2 avian agents for pathogenicity and vaccine studies
- 1 facility registered; approximately 20 people



SA Program Requirements

- Required to have annual (unannounced) inspections
- FBI clearance for staff
- Physical security; biosecurity; cybersecurity; inventory control "cradle to grave"
- Biosafety and Biosecurity Plans as well as Incident Management Plans



Questions?

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